

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 192973

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, YE, SA

SUBJECT: SOVIET ROLE IN YAR MILITARY

1. IN CONNECTION WITH RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH YARG AND SAG ON THIS SUBJECT YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT AT JULY 27 HIGH LEVEL USG REVIEW OF POLICY TOWARD YAR IT WAS DECIDED THAT WE WOULD NOT SEEK REMOVAL OF THE SOVIET PRESENCE IN SANA AS THE PRICE OF OUR ASSISTANCE. RATHER, WE WOULD PROCEED WITH OUR PROGRAM AND LET YAR AND SOVIETS WORK OUT THEIR OWN RELATIONSHIP.

2. WE BELIEVE BEST POSTURE FOR ACTION ADDRESSEES ON THIS QUESTION IS SIMPLY TO REFRAIN FROM SUGGESTING TO EITHER HOST GOVERNMENT THAT USG IS EAGER TO SEE SOVIETS OUT OF YEMEN. WE REALIZE REMOVAL OF SOVIETS IS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE

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OF SAUDI POLICY TOWARD YAR AND WE SEE NO UTILITY IN ARGUING THIS QUESTION WITH SAUDIS OR ATTEMPTING TO DISCOURAGE THEIR OWN EFFORTS TO PERSUADE YAR TO MOVE SOVIETS OUT. BY SAME TOKEN WE SHOULD NOT DISCOURAGE THOSE YAR LEADERS WHO INDICATE TO US ASPIRATIONS OF GETTING RID OF SOVIETS. VANCE

SECRET

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